

Friday 31st July 2026
Issue 13

LINK LETTER



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From the Principal

Tony Ryan

Hello everyone and welcome to our week 3 newsletter.

Years 3-6 Athletics Carnivals:

Congratulations to all of our Years 3-6 students, staff and families on two very successful WHPS house athletics carnival days over the past two Mondays. It has been wonderful to see our students competing with enthusiasm, supporting their house teams and encouraging one another throughout the events.

A special thank you to Miss Massa for her organisation and coordination of both days. These events take a great deal of planning and preparation, and we appreciate the work that goes into making them such positive experiences for our students.

Thank you also to the staff who supported the setting up of the track, equipment and running of events, as well as the many parents, carers and community members who generously donated their time to assist throughout the days. School sporting events simply could not operate without this support.

We look forwards to supporting our athletics team selected to represent our school at the District Athletics Carnival in the coming weeks.



Term 3

- **Tuesday 4th August**
Grade 4 Democracy, Community Incursion.

- **Wednesday 5th August**
Grade 5 Democracy, Community Incursion.

- **Friday 7th August**
Principals Day

- **Wednesday 19th August**
Science Competition Closes

- **Thursday 20th August**
District Athletics

Term Dates 2026

Term 3:

- **Mon 13th July term start**

- **Fri 18th Sep term end**

Term 4:

- **Mon 5th Oct term start**

- **Fri 18th Dec year end**

Thanks from Cara:

As mentioned above we really value and appreciate the great support we receive from our community volunteers. Our canteen manager Cara recently fell ill during one of our canteen days. She was really touched by the level of support provided from a number of our parent volunteers in supporting the running of the canteen. We express our thanks to Justine Wolfe, Emma Ringeri, Loren Aldred, Kerrie Mason and Brittany Muir for the support they provided.

- We wish to also send our best birthday wishes to Cara who celebrated her birthday with our wonderful parent volunteers today in the Canteen, in between preparing students lunches!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



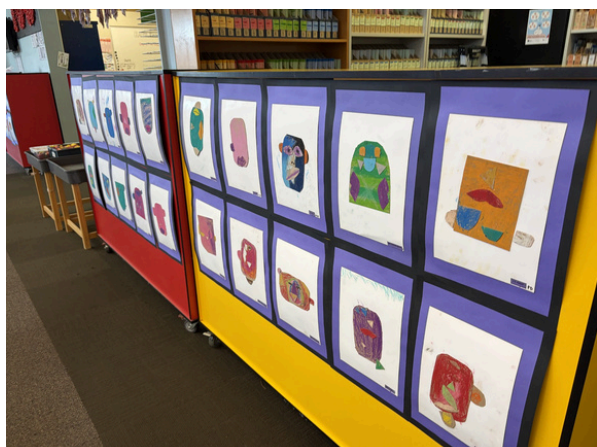
Celebrating Our Art Show:

What a wonderful celebration of creativity we enjoyed at our Art Show on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. It was fantastic to see our school transformed into an exhibition space showcasing the incredible creative work of our students.

A huge thank you to Ms Purchase and Mrs Caldwell for the considerable work they put into organising and presenting such a wonderful exhibition. Their passion for the arts and commitment to providing these opportunities for our students is greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to all the families and community members who came through to view the exhibition and celebrate the work of our students. We particularly appreciated the generous support provided through gold coin donations and the silent auction, with community members having the opportunity to purchase some wonderful collaborative artworks created by our budding artists. These funds are directed straight back into our arts program for the benefit of our students.

Most importantly, it was wonderful to see our students take such pride in seeing their work displayed for our community.



Celebration of Learning:

We love inviting our community into the school to share in the wonderful learning achievements of our students as we did with the Art Show. A future date for our families to put in the calendar is the Celebration of Learning afternoon in the last week of Term 3. This event will be held on Tuesday 15th September and will be an opportunity for parents/carers to visit classrooms to share in their child's learning activities.

On this day our classrooms will be open across the last 30 minutes of the day 3:00–3:30pm. For those parents/carers available to visit during class time, it would be an opportunity to engage with your child and share in their learning space alongside their peers and see some of their learning in action. Teachers would be supporting the running of the classroom during this time and may have some brief opportunities to contribute to the learning celebration conversations taking place. As the classrooms are still in operation during this time and to avoid extra congestion in classrooms, we ask that parents make other arrangements for younger siblings during this period.

Our classrooms will remain open in the afternoon following dismissal at 3:30pm until 4:40pm for parents/carers to engage in the Celebration of Learning with their child. Multiple learning discussions may be taking place at the same time within the classroom with our teachers roaming the room to contribute to the conversations. Further details will be shared in the weeks prior to the event, but it is worth our community adding this date to their calendars.

State Cross Country Success:

This one is a little delayed. Miss Massa sent me this photo early in the term but I missed putting it in the week 1 newsletter. We are incredibly proud to celebrate the outstanding achievement of two of our students who progressed all the way through to the State Cross Country Championships.

Congratulations to Ellie Elms in Year 5 and Madelyn Abdallah in Year 6 on this amazing accomplishment. To progress through the various levels of competition and reach the state level is an exceptional achievement and reflects the commitment, determination and effort you have both demonstrated. We are incredibly proud of you both!

Elder Street Disruptions:

We have received reports around some disruptions to our school gate access on Elder Street due to some neighbouring construction works yesterday. The school is working with the builder and council to ensure the safety of our community is maintained and disruption to our school operations is minimised. It's a good opportunity to remind your children about safely accessing our local school crossings to maintain student safety in transiting to and from school.

Changes to Technology Use Policies in Schools:

The Department of Education has recently made changes to its guidance regarding the amount and use of technology devices in schools.

In response to these changes, Watsonia Heights Primary School will progressively phase out our current 1:1 iPad program over time. As a result, families of students currently in Year 2 do not need to purchase an iPad for their child to use at school in 2027.

Our goal will continue to be ensuring that technology is used purposefully and where it adds genuine value to student learning, while maintaining a strong balance with explicit teaching, collaboration, hands-on learning and other important classroom experiences.



Acknowledging the Experiences of Victims and Survivors:

Today, the Victorian Government and Premier acknowledged and apologised to victims and survivors of historical sexual abuse in Victorian government schools. This is an important acknowledgement of the experiences of those who were harmed and the lasting impact that abuse can have on individuals and communities.

While reflecting on this acknowledgement, it is also an important opportunity for our school community to consider our shared responsibility for ensuring that every child at Watsonia Heights Primary School is safe, respected and supported at all times.

Student safety is a responsibility shared by all members of our community. This includes our staff, students, families, volunteers and visitors. We all have a role to play in creating an environment where children feel safe to speak up, where concerns are taken seriously and where appropriate action is taken whenever a child's safety or wellbeing may be at risk.

Our commitment to child safety is ongoing. We will continue to ensure that our practices, policies and behaviours reflect our responsibility to protect children and provide an environment in which every student can learn, grow and thrive.

STRIVE Points – Celebrating Positive Behaviour

One of the exciting developments this year as part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support approach has been the introduction of our STRIVE Points system.



STRIVE Points provide a way for our staff to positively acknowledge students when they demonstrate the behaviours and values we want to see across our school. These positive acknowledgements contribute to rewards at an individual, class and whole-school level.

It has been fantastic to see students embracing the system and recognising that their everyday actions and choices can contribute to something bigger than themselves.

I am particularly looking forward to seeing when we reach our first whole-school reward later this term. I am also very interested to see which reward proves to be the most popular with our students!

Thank you to our staff for consistently looking for opportunities to recognise and celebrate the positive behaviours our students demonstrate each day.

100 Days of Prep!

A very big congratulations to our Prep students on reaching 100 days of school!

It has been wonderful to see how positively our newest students have settled into their school journey.

Celebrating 100 days of learning is a fantastic milestone, and the students certainly embraced the occasion today by dressing up and taking part in a range of fun activities such as face painting and enjoying a magician's show.

It is hard to believe how quickly those first 100 days have passed.

We are incredibly proud of the way our Prep students have begun their school careers and look forward to seeing all that they will achieve as the year continues.

Well done, Preps!

Have a great weekend everyone.



Tony

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C

Grade 1



Name: Elijah Cumberland

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning new things

When I grow up, I want to be: in the Military

Some of my hobbies include: playing basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: raising money charities



Name: Kate Enkelmann

Favourite thing about WHPS: the colour run!

When I grow up, I want to be an: artist or police woman

Some of my hobbies include: dancing

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: standing up and speaking at assembly



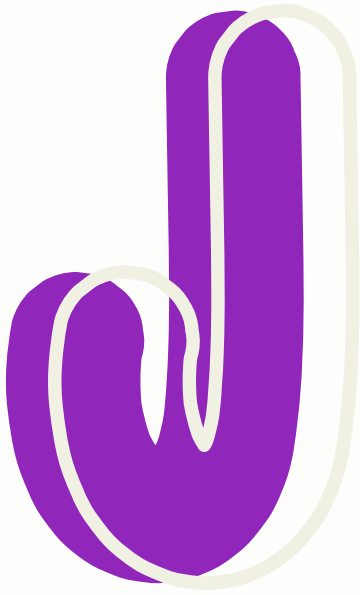
Name: Noah Pattern

Favourite thing about WHPS: maths

When I grow up, I want to be a: kick boxer

Some of my hobbies include: playing footy

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: announce new things at assembly



Grade 1



Name: Remi Irvine

Favourite thing about WHPS: playing with my friends

When I grow up, I want to be a: nurse

Some of my hobbies include: basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping people



Name: Saylor Purchase

Favourite thing about WHPS: the teachers

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher

Some of my hobbies include: basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school environment



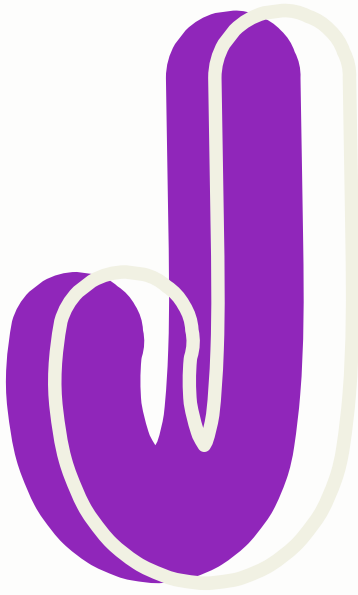
Name: Carter O'Malveney

Favourite thing about WHPS: playing

When I grow up, I want to be a: soccer player

Some of my hobbies include: playing soccer

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: fundraising for charities



Grade 2



Name: Hitha Narkedamilli

Favourite thing about WHPS: playtime

When I grow up, I want to be a: ice-cream shop keeper

Some of my hobbies include: reading

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: getting my badge at assembly



Name: Tom Fergin

Favourite thing about WHPS: playtime

When I grow up, I want to be a: footy player

Some of my hobbies include: reading

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: getting my badge at assembly



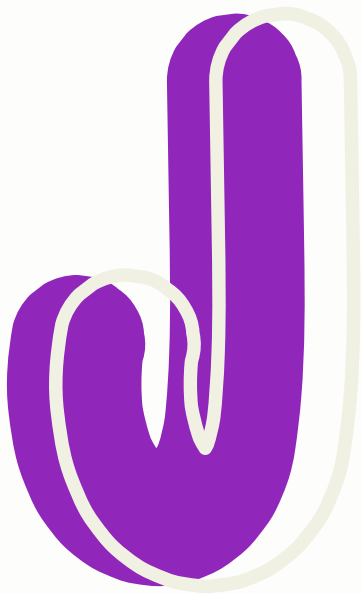
Name: Colin Tuckey

Favourite thing about WHPS: the size of the school

When I grow up, I want to be a: garbage collector

Some of my hobbies include: tennis

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: improving the school environment



Grade 2



Name: Ariana Forano

Favourite thing about WHPS: everything!

When I grow up, I want to be a: doctor or hairdresser

Some of my hobbies include: swimming

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: speaking at assembly



Name: Elsie Stewart

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning

When I grow up, I want to be a: cafe owner

Some of my hobbies include: gymnastics and swimming

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: decorating the school



Name: Hamish Smyth

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning

When I grow up, I want to be a: secret agent

Some of my hobbies include: footy and basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: announcing new things at assembly



Grade 3



Name: Hannah Hale

Favourite thing about WHPS: that we get specialist classes

When I grow up, I want to be an: artist

Some of my hobbies include: basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: coming to meetings and meeting new friends



Name: Harvey Hennesey

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning

When I grow up, I want to be an: actor

Some of my hobbies include: tennis, trampolining and roller skating

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: help the school become a better place for everyone



Name: Leila Di Luca

Favourite thing about WHPS: the kids

When I grow up, I want to be a: vet or netball player

Some of my hobbies include: netball and swimming

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: help everything and everyone in the school

JSC

Grade 3



Name: Matisse Jarvis

Favourite thing about WHPS: the teachers

When I grow up, I want to be a: vet or doctor

Some of my hobbies include: gymnastics and dancing

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: raising money for sick kids and talking in front of the school



Name: Charlotte Duerden

Favourite thing about WHPS: how kind the teachers are!

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher

Some of my hobbies include: basketball, dancing, netball and gymnastics

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping others and making our school a better place



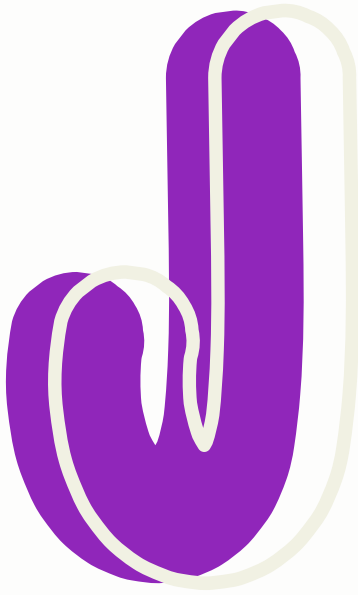
Name: Kendall Walker

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning

When I grow up, I want to be a: gymnast

Some of my hobbies include: jumping on the trampoline

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: put in a lot of work for the school



Grade 3



Name: Ned Thadani

Favourite thing about WHPS: the footy oval

When I grow up, I want to be a: footy player

Some of my hobbies include: footy and basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: getting new stuff for the school



Name: Ciara Gitsos

Favourite thing about WHPS: everyone is like a big family

When I grow up, I want to be a: builder or movie maker

Some of my hobbies include: footy and ice hockey

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: coming to meetings and giving new ideas

Grade 4



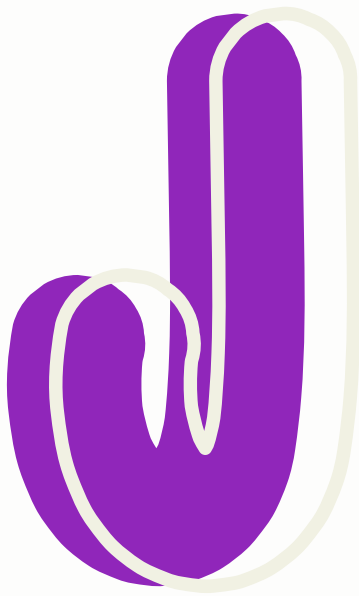
Name: Jake Livingstone

Favourite thing about WHPS: playtime

When I grow up, I want to be a: famous soccer player

Some of my hobbies include: reading, soccer, swimming

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: make the school a better place to be



Grade 4



Name: Ebony Davis

Favourite thing about WHPS: the library

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher or librarian

Some of my hobbies include: reading and gymnastics

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: making the school a better place and doing new things for the school



Name: Bonnie Parsons

Favourite thing about WHPS: the teamwork and kindness

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher

Some of my hobbies include: basketball, dancing, reading

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school become a better place



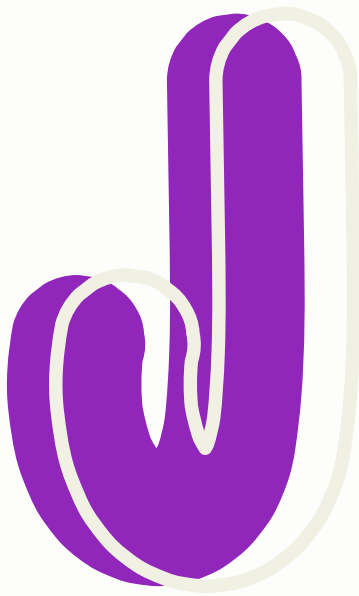
Name: Elsie Allen

Favourite thing about WHPS: my friends

When I grow up, I want to be an: artist or president

Some of my hobbies include: reading, drawing, learning

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: learning new things



Grade 4



Name: Arlo Laurence

Favourite thing about WHPS: how nice the teachers are

When I grow up, I want to be an: actor

Some of my hobbies include: basketball, soccer, reading

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: trying to get an indoor gym



Name: Eddie May

Favourite thing about WHPS: the sport

When I grow up, I want to be an: actor

Some of my hobbies include: Lego

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school become a better place



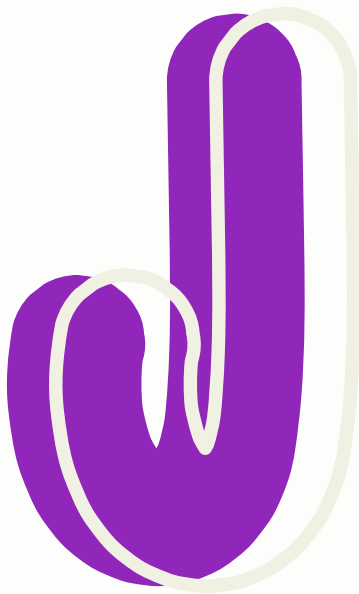
Name: Mila Eckhardt

Favourite thing about WHPS: my teacher and friends

When I grow up, I want to be an: actress, teacher, vet or singer

Some of my hobbies include: reading, knitting, basketball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: changing the school for the benefit of the students



Grade 5



Name: Matthew Eade

Favourite thing about WHPS: the teachers

When I grow up, I want to be an: engineer

Some of my hobbies include: robotics and coding

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: trying to raise money for charities



Name: Olivia Collins

Favourite thing about WHPS: playing with my friends

When I grow up, I want to be a: general practitioner (GP)

Some of my hobbies include: art, basketball, footy

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school and making it a better place



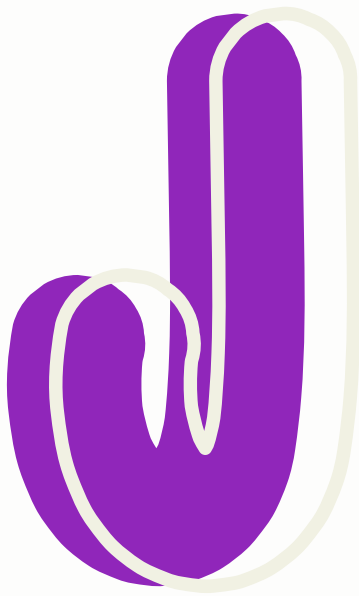
Name: Mackenzie Rowe

Favourite thing about WHPS: sport and PE

When I grow up, I want to be a: zookeeper or vet

Some of my hobbies include: footy, netball, reading, craft

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: raising money for charities in need



Grade 5



Name: Emilia Tzavella

Favourite thing about WHPS: hanging out with my friends

When I grow up, I want to be an: vet, singer, actress or lawyer

Some of my hobbies include: singing, aerial, reading, art

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school be a better place for all



Name: Archer Mercuri

Favourite thing about WHPS: art show, library, science

When I grow up, I want to be an: artist, event manager, graphic designer

Some of my hobbies include: art, music, singing, cooking

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school and making it a more colourful place



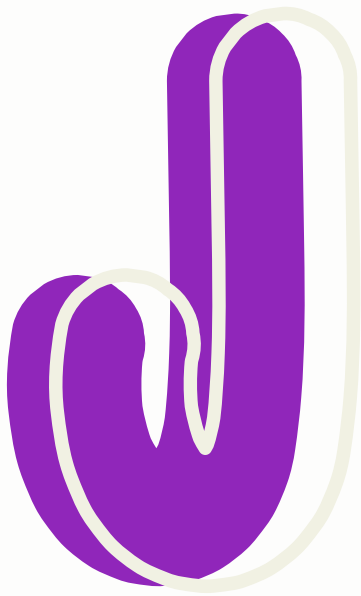
Name: Praise Varghese

Favourite thing about WHPS: my friends

When I grow up, I want to be a: haven't decided

Some of my hobbies include: coding, cricket

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: changing some things in the school



Grade 6



Name: Sadie Apelgren

Favourite thing about WHPS: excursions

When I grow up, I want to be a: vet

Some of my hobbies include: netball

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school be a better place for all



Name: April Orton

Favourite thing about WHPS: friends and teachers

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher

Some of my hobbies include: netball and craft

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: better the school and improve some parts of it



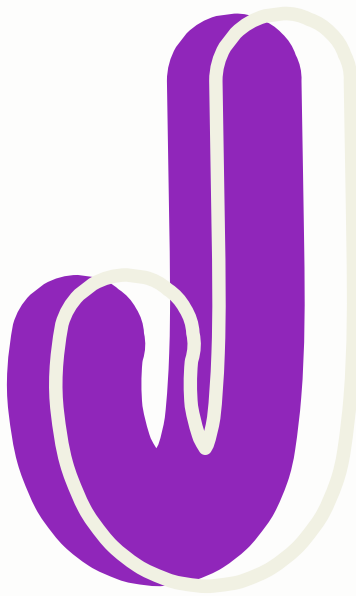
Name: Abigail Alexander

Favourite thing about WHPS: friends and teachers

When I grow up, I want to be a: teacher

Some of my hobbies include: calisthenics

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping the school be a better place



Grade 6



Name: Yaami Pothuguntla

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning

When I grow up, I want to be an: something to do with criminology

Some of my hobbies include: singing, general crafting

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: raising funds



Name: Serena Wang

Favourite thing about WHPS: learning all that I can

When I grow up, I want to be: some kind of performance artist or a scientist

Some of my hobbies include: circus, singing, dancing, craft, reading, playing with Yaami

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: helping my society at school



Name: Dusk O'Donoghue

Favourite thing about WHPS: all the kindness

When I grow up, I want to be an: artist

Some of my hobbies include: crochet, art and dance

As apart of JSC, I am most excited about: speaking at assembly and helping the school improve in any way

JSC



**Congratulations to
the JSC for
Semester 2!**

STATE CROSS COUNTRY



Absolute
Champions!



We are so proud of
you!

Ellie Elms (5F)
Madelyn Abdallah
(6W)



Miss Massa

DIVISION NETBALL

Well done to the Girls Netball team for making it to Division Netball on the 28th of July.

Unfortunately some of the other schools were just too good for us and we lost both games, one to



Ivanhoe East Primary (17-10) and Banyule Primary (24-2).

Miss Clay is super proud of the super effort and amazing teamwork that the girls displayed all Term 2 and on Tuesday.



3-4 HOUSE ATHLETICS

What a fantastic day we had at our 3/4 House Athletics Day at Willinda Park on Monday! It was wonderful to see our students embracing the day with enthusiasm, determination and plenty of House spirit.

A huge congratulations to all of our students for their efforts throughout the day. Whether they were competing on the track, participating in field events, cheering on their teammates or encouraging others, we were incredibly proud of the way they represented their team. Their positive attitudes and persistence and made the day a great success.

We would also like to extend a massive thank you to our dedicated staff who assisted throughout the day, helping to organise and run events, record results, measure performances, and support our students. We are incredibly grateful for the time and effort they put into ensuring the day ran smoothly

A special thank you also goes to our wonderful parent helpers, who volunteered their time to assist with our track and field events. Your support with recording, measuring and helping run events was invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Finally, thank you to all of the parents, families and spectators who came along to Willinda Park to support and encourage our students. Having familiar faces cheering from the sidelines created a fantastic atmosphere and made the day even more special for our students.

We are now looking forward to our 5/6 House Athletics Day. Once this event has been completed and all results have been carefully reviewed, students will be informed if they have been selected to represent WHPS at the District Athletics Carnival. Well done to everyone involved in making our 3/4 House Athletics Day such a memorable and successful event!



3-4 HOUSE ATHLETICS



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3-4 HOUSE ATHLETICS



5/6 HOUSE ATHLETICS

A huge congratulations to all of our students for their efforts throughout our 5/6 House Athletics day. Whether they were competing on the track, participating in field events, cheering on their teammates or encouraging others, we were incredibly proud of the way they represented their team.

We would also like to say a massive thank you to our dedicated staff who assisted throughout the day, helping to organise and run events, record results, measure performances, and support our students. We are incredibly grateful for the time and effort they put into ensuring the day ran smoothly

A special thank you also goes to our wonderful parent helpers, who volunteered their time to assist with our track and field events. Your support with recording, measuring and helping run events was invaluable and greatly appreciated.

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5/6 HOUSE ATHLETICS



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5/6 HOUSE ATHLETICS



CELEBRATING AN AWESOME SWIMMING EFFORT

A super effort from Bodhi Di Benedetto in 4C. Here are some photos from a recent swim meet and presentation night. We are proud of his continuous effort and dedication to his swimming. Well done mate!





Dates for your **DIARY 2026**



By Miss Massa

Term 3 - 13th July - 18th September 2026

WHPS 3/4 House Athletics Monday 20th July 2026 @ Willinda Park

AFL 9s Division Thursday 23rd July

WHPS 5/6 House Athletics Monday 27th July 2026 @ Willinda Park

Netball Division Tuesday July 28th

Soccer Division Wednesday July 29th

T Ball Division Thursday July 30th

District Athletics Thursday 20th August @ Meadowglen Athletics Track

Division Athletics Friday September 11th

Term 4 - 5th October - 18th December 2026

Northern Metropolitan Regional Athletics Wednesday 14th October 2026

Grade 5 Camp Sovereign Hill - Wednesday 14th October- Wednesday 16th October
2026

Division Basketball Thursday 15th October

Division Softball Wednesday 21st October

Grade 4 Camp Alexandra Adventure Resort - Monday 26th October- Wednesday
28th October 2026

Cricket Blast Wednesday 28th

Grade 6 Camp Coastal Forest Lodge - Wednesday 2nd December - Friday 4th
December 2026





INTERSCHOOL SPORT CODE OF CONDUCT



SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) Demonstrate appropriate social behavior by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials
- b) Students play organised sport for enjoyment. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
- c) Don't let your behavior detract from their enjoyment
- d) Applaud good performance and efforts by your team AND the opponents. Congratulate both teams upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- e) Respect the official's decision. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure of the sport in order to question the decision and teach the children to do likewise.
- f) Never ridicule a player for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivating.
- g) Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- h) Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- i) Encourage players to play according to the rules and the officials' decisions.
- j) Behave in a manner that respects the rights of others regardless of mediums of communication used eg digital mediums such as twitter, facebook, email and texts.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) Play for enjoyment.
- b) Play by the rules.
- c) Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the official during a break or after the game.
- d) Don't be induced into 'throwing' a game for the benefit of another team or individual
- e) Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent and throwing equipment is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
- f) Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- g) Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another player.
- h) Co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents.
- i) Behave in a manner that respects the rights of others regardless of mediums of communication used eg digital mediums such as twitter, facebook, email and texts.



Student of The Week

Week 2



Poppy, Dylan, Akira, Darcy, Andrea, River, Saylor, Colin, Ivy, Noraj, Elijah, Alby, Mila, Toby, Elsie, Nate, Mina, Jude, Will, Hannah, Digby, Kai, Poppy.

Week 3

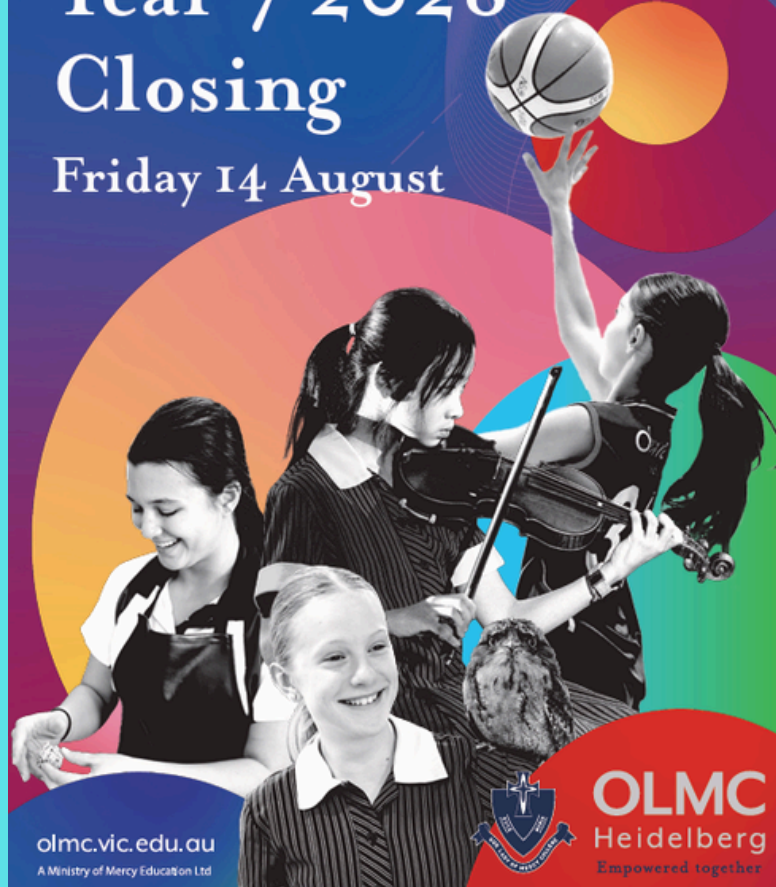


Bailey, Felicity, Abby, Evie, Zac, Ivy, Koa, Remi, Ella, Riley, Joyce, Noah, Vance, Sienna, Bodhi, Tahu, Georgia, Arman, Ellie, Amal, Remy, Isaac.

Congratulations!

Applications for Year 7 2028 Closing

Friday 14 August



olmc.vic.edu.au

A Ministry of Mercy Education Ltd



OLMC
Heidelberg
Empowered together



Do you have a daughter in Grade 5?

Year 7, 2028 applications close
Friday, 14 August 2026.

A place to belong, where every student is
supported to learn, grow and thrive.

Apply now at clc.vic.edu.au/enrol



Greensborough
Plaza

LITTLE EXPLORERS

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY SESSIONS
WED 15 JUL – WED 16 SEP
9:30AM – 12:30PM
LEVEL 3, NEAR TARGET

Join us every Wednesday for
fun activities at our kids' space!

15 JUL
NAIDOC Dot Painting

22 JUL
Magic Possum Craft &
Free Lamination

29 JUL
Friendship Bracelets

5 AUG
Dinosaur Craft with
NIDO Early School

12 AUG
Elephant Craft with
Launchpad Learning

19 AUG
Adventure Stories & Craft with
Diamond Valley Library

26 AUG
Superhero Mask Craft

2 SEP
Father's Day Badge Making

9 SEP
Teddy Bear Craft

16 SEP
Pirate Hats & Face Painting

MORE INFO

